

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-17

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EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: CI PINT PINS

SUBJ: UP CONGRESS ENDS AS SOCIALIST WOO SOLDIERS

REF: SANTIAGO 2743

1. SUMMARY. ONLY SCATTERED INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE REPORTED IN SANTIAGO AND REST OF COUNTRY OVER WEEKEND BUT WAR OF WORDS CONTINUED. RUMORS OF MILITARY REENTRANCE INTO CABINET PERSISTED, AS GOVT PROVIDED MORE DETAILS OF WAGE PLAN TO QUIET MILITARY UNHAPPINESS ABOUT PAY. SOCIALIST PARTY SECGEN ALTAMIRANO ISSUED CALL TO ARMED FORCES TO JOIN PROCESS OF SOCIAL CHANGE, AND APPEAL WHICH MAY DISCOMFIT SOME SENIOR MILITARY COMMANDERS. UP CONGRESS ENDED JUNE 24 WITH SPEECH BY PRESIDENT ALLENDE AND REPEATED CALLS FOR UNIFIED POLITICAL LEADERSHIP TO STOP " FASCIST" SUBVERSION AND CARRY FORWARD GOVT PLANS. END SUMMARY.

2. ADDRESSING CLOSING SESSION UP CONGRESS JUNE 24, PRES ALLENDE REITERATED CALL TO CREATE " PEOPLES POWER" (PODER POPULAR) GRASSROOTS ORGANIZATIONS, BUT CLOSELY LINKED TO GOVT. ALLENDE CLAIMED CHILE' S " BOURGEOIS INFRASTRUCTURE" IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CURRENT SERIOUS ECONOMIC PROBLEMS, AGGRAVATED BY UNRELENTING OPPOSITION CAMPAIGN AIMED AT EVENTUAL OVERTHROW OF HIS GOVT. HE STRESSED UP PROGRAM MUST
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BE FLEXIBLE, CITING MILITARY ENTRANCE INTO CABINET LAST NOVEMBER AS EXAMPLE OF CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRING NEW APPROACHES. TIME IS NOT RIPE FOR CREATION OF A SINGLE PARTY (PARTIDO UNICO), AS IN COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE ATTAINED SOCIALISM; EACH UP PARTY MUST MAINTAIN ITS OWN PHILOSOPHY AND IDENTITY BUT ALL MUST PULL TOGETHER UNDER UNIFIED LEADERSHIP AND STRATEGY. PRESIDENT CALLED FOR NEW EMPHASIS ON PLURALISM WITHIN UP AS WAY TO EXPAND ITS POPULAR SUPPORT.

3. UP CONGRESS ISSUED DECLARATION NOTING THAT AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED ON A COMMON POLITICAL STRATEGY, ON PRIORITY ECONOMIC TASKS, AND ON UP RESTRUCTURING TO MAKE IT THE COORDINATING INSTRUMENT OF UP AND GOVT POLICY. DECLARATION TRACED RIGHTIST RECALCITRANCE AGAINST ALLENDE GOVT, CLAIMED OPPOSITION IS NOW SEEKING ARMED CONFRONTATION, AND VOWED PEOPLE WILL PREVENT CIVIL WAR AND SMASH " FASCISM. " AS TO UP PRIORITY GOALS, COMMUNIST EL SIGLO LISTED (A) UNIFIED POLITICAL LEADERSHIP, (B) ORGANIZATION OF GRASSROOTS " PEOPLES POWER" GROUPS, (C) FORMATION OF GOVT- CONTROLLED SECTOR OF ECONOMY, (D) REVISED AGRARIAN REFORM TO RESOLVE PRODUCTION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS, (E) " ABSOLUTE CONTROL" OF DISTRIBUTION OF ESSENTIAL CONSUMER GOODS TO HALT INFLATION AND BLACK MARKETEERING, AND (F) REAFFIRMATION OF GOVT' S AUTHORITY BY TAKING " FIRM LINE" AGAINST " FASCIST" OPPOSITION. OTHER RESOLUTIONS OF CONGRESS MAY BE ANNOUNCED LATER THIS WEEK.

4. IN NATIONWIDE RADIO AND TV ADDRESS LATE JUNE 23, SOCIALIST PARTY SEC GEN CARLOS ALTAMIRANO CLAIMED PS CONSIDERS ARMED FORCES AN " INTEGRAL PART OF THE PEOPLE." CITING PS STATEMENTS DATING TO 1969 " TACNAZO," ALTAMIRANO ALLEGED PS HAS ALWAYS ADVOCATED MILITARY TAKING A " CONSTRUCTIVE" ROLE IN NATIONAL EVENTS. CITING " DISASTROUS" STATE OF MILITARY INHERITED FROM FREI REGIME, ALTAMIRANO STRESSED UP EFFORTS TO RESOLVE PERSONAL (I. E. SALARIES) AND EQUIPMENT PROBLEMS OF MILITARY. CALLING FOR FULL INTEGRATION OF MILITARY INTO ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROCESS, PS LEADER URGED ARMED FORCES TO JOIN WHOLEHEARTEDLY IN PROCESS OF SOCIAL CHANGE. THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW SOCIETY, HE CONCLUDED, WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED BY THE " REVOLUTIONARY UNITY OF WORKERS, CAMPESINOS, AND SOLDIERS."

5. INTENSE RUMORS CONTINUE TO PERSIST OF MILITARY ENTRANCE
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INTO CABINET. LATEST SPECULATION LOOKS FOR A MID- WEEK CABINET SHAKEUP, DEPENDING ON HOW IMPEACHMENT PROCESSES OF MINECONOMY MILLAS (SUSPENDED BY CHAMBER) ANW MININTERIOR ESPINOZA (CHARGES INTRODUCED) DEVELOP. ALL KINDS OF NAMES ARE BEING LINKED TO VARIOUS POSTS.

6. GOVT, MEANWHILE, ANNOUNCED TWO- STEP WAGE PLAN DESIGNED

TO RELIEVE ECONOMIC DISCONTENT IN ARMED FORCES AND CARABINEROS. FIRST STEP, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, WILL ALLOW ALL PERSONNEL TO RECOUP PURCHASING POWER LOST THROUGH INFLATION. SECOND STEP WILL BE REALIGNMENT OF WAGE STRUCTURE TO PROVIDE HIGHER SALARIES TO TECHNICIANS AND SPECIALISTS, BASED ON AMOUNT OF TRAINING REQUIRED FOR EACH JOB AND RESPONSIBILITIES ASSIGNED TO ITS INCUMBENT. GOVT PROPOSAL WILL NEED CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL.

7. SUPREME COURT CHIEF JUSTICE ENRIQUE URRUTIA ISSUED SHARP PUBLIC LETTER REPLYING TO UP ATTACKS ON SALARIES AND OTHER REMUNERATIONS EARNED BY JUSTICES (REFTEL). URRUTIA FLATLY DENIED ANY JUDGE EARNED MORE THAN 20 SUELDO VITALES OR THAT THEY WERE INVOLVED IN FINAGLING WITH THEIR PENSIONS OR OUT-OF- COURT ACTIVITIES.

8. SANTIAGO AND OTHER MAJOR CITIES WERE GENERALLY QUIET OVER WEEKEND WITH ONLY MINOR AND SCATTERED INCIDENTS OF POLITICAL VIOLENCE REPORTED. SANTIAGO SECONDARY STUDENTS BACK TO SCHOOL TODAY AFTER STRIKING IN SUPPORT OF EL TENIENTE STRIKERS. TODAY' S NEWSCASTS CONFIRM MINERS' WIVES WILL MARCH FROM RANCAGUA TOMORROW.

9. COMMENT. IN HEADLONG RUSH OF EVENTS, UP CONGRESS WAS RELEGATED TO INSIDE PAGES OF MOST PAPERS AND DID NOT RECEIVE THE PUBLIC ATTENTION OR UP EFFORT THAT ALLENDE ORIGINALLY HOPED TO ACHIEVE. WHETHER ANYTHING MORE THAN PIOUS RHETORIC WILL COME OUT OF METING REMAINS TO BE SEEN. IN SPITE OF NEW- FOUND COMMUNIST/ SOCIALIST TACTICAL AGREEMENT, BASIC DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THESE TWO PARTIES, AND AMONG OTHER MINOR UP MEMBER PARTIES, REMAIN GREAT.

10. ALTAMIRANO' S VELVET GLOVE TREATMENT OF MILITARY, WHICH CONTRASTS SHARPLY WITH VIEWS GENERALLY ASCRIBED TO SOCIALIST
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REGARDING ARMED FORCES, MAY MAKE TOP OFFICERS EXTREMELY UNEASY AT WHAT SOME MAY THINK AMOUNTS TO AN APPEAL OVER THEIR HEADS DIRECTLY TO TROOPS. COUPLED WITH INCESSANT HARPING BY MIR AND OTHER EXTREME LEFT ELEMENTS ABOUT " DEMOCRATIZING" THE ARMED FORCES AND " THE PEOPLE IN UNIFORM," SENIOR COMMANDERS MAY WONDER JUST HOW LOYAL THEIR TROOPS WOULD BE TO THEM IN A CRUNCH.
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